

LYTHAM  
*URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.*

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health,  
FOR THE YEAR 1894.

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PRINTED AT THE "TIMES" OFFICE, LYTHAM.



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REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
TO THE LYTHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to your notice my Annual Report on the Health, Mortality, and General Sanitary condition of the Lytham Urban Sanitary District.

In the Memorandum as to the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health issued by the Local Government Board in December, 1894, this sentence occurs: "This Report is to be for the year ending the 31st December, or, if the Officer at that date has not been in office for a whole year, then for so much of the year as has elapsed since his appointment.

In consideration, however, that the Returns of Births, Deaths, and Notified Infectious Diseases, for the whole twelve months are now before me, and that the consideration of them as a whole will be much simpler and more instructive than a review of the last four months only, I have ventured, as far as these three subjects are concerned, to exceed the letter of my instructions, and have arranged the accompanying tables so that you may see at a glance all the incidents of Disease and Death that have occurred in this district during 1894.



All other matters mentioned in this Report have been brought to notice since my appointment on September 1st, 1894.

### Statistics.

For the purpose of calculating the statistics it is necessary to estimate the number of persons (exclusive of visitors) resident in the district at Midsummer. There are various ways in which this may be done. The Registrar-General recommends that the rate of increase during the period comprised between the dates on which the last two census returns were taken, be considered to remain the rate at which a population will increase till the next census year; and that this rate be applied to the population for each year that has elapsed since the last enumeration.

Calculating in this way, I estimate the population of Lytham in the middle of 1894 to have been 4,844. But as towns of this description do not, as a fact, increase by rule, but are influenced by the vicissitudes of good and bad seasons, &c., an acquaintance with local conditions is necessary in forming an accurate estimate of the population. I have, therefore, adopted the estimate made by my predecessor, who, from his long residence amongst you, must be better fitted to judge the extent to which Lytham is increasing, and have computed my statistics on a population of 4,901.

In notes on tables A and B, the Local Government Board require that, "the Localities adopted for the purposes of these statistics should be areas of known population, such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships and wards." The late division of the district into wards supplies the boundaries for these areas,

and I have estimated the population of each ward from the list of ratepayers entitled to vote.

North East Ward.	Population	1139	Voters	230
North West	„	1531	„	312
South East	„	1166	„	234
South West	„	1065	„	215
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		4901		991

### Births.

The Births registered during the year numbered altogether 98. Boys 43, Girls 55. This gives an Annual Birth-rate of 19·9 per 1,000 ; and is 28 more than the number of deaths. If there were no immigration of new residents to the town this would express the increase in the population for the year, but I am glad to notice that Lytham is not at a stand-still, and that the new houses, which are being built in such numbers, are being taken almost before they are fit for habitation.

### Deaths.

The total number of Deaths recorded in the twelve months is 70, of which five were deaths of visitors, when these are deducted there remains 65 deaths of residents, which gives a Death-rate equal to an Annual Mortality of 13·2 per 1,000.

As will be seen by the subjoined table A at the end of this Report, there has not been a single death of a resident from any of the Zymotic Diseases ; the only case being that of a visitor who died from Enteric Fever, contracted before her arrival in Lytham. This should be a matter for great congratulation.

Among the deaths from Tubercular Phthisis, now considered to be to a great extent a preventable disease, it is noteworthy that only five are among residents, the other three being those of visitors, who had come here in the hope of restoring their already shattered health.

Although 14 children died before reaching one year of age, that is at a rate of 2·8 to every 1,000 of the inhabitants, and at a rate of 142 to every 1,000 births registered. It is pleasant to notice that there is no case certified as due to Infantile Diarrhoea, which is the special scourge of the large towns of this county.

Nine deaths were due to disease of the respiratory organs other than Tubercular Phthisis, twelve to Heart Disease, one to accident, one to suicide; the remainder were due to various causes not requiring special comment.

### Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Altogether 32 cases of these diseases were reported to the Medical Officers, and were distributed as follows :—

North East Ward ...	...	...	9 cases
North West Ward...	...	...	4 cases
South East Ward ...	...	...	8 cases
South West Ward ...	...	...	11 cases

### Small-pox.

Of this complaint two cases have occurred. On one of them my predecessor, Dr. Mackintosh, furnished the Sanitary Authority with a Special Report. The other was notified to me in December, and was of an exceedingly modified type. Every available precaution was taken, and those in attendance on the patient were successfully re-vaccinated. There being no Isolation Hospital in the district, the case had, perforce, to be treated a



home, which, fortunately, was so situated that intercourse with the unaffected could be avoided. Though our efforts to prevent the spread of this disease have in this case been successful it does not follow that we may meet with the same good fortune in the future, and provision should be made either for a Small-pox Hospital for this town, or for the right of removing patients to some Hospital common to the districts of the Fylde.

### Scarlet Fever.

The notified cases of this disease numbered 14, six of which were reported during January ; they, however, never deserved the name of an epidemic, and in many instances were traceable to infection from outside the district.

### Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup.

Not a single instance of either of these complaints occurred during the year.

### Enteric Fever.

There were 10 cases reported, one proving fatal; the victim being a visitor who was suffering from the disease when she came to Lytham. Three of the others attacked were members of one family, two being taken ill in February and March, and the other in December. Every effort was made to discover the source of infection, and it was found to probably exist in the introduction of infected ground air into the house. I wish to draw your attention to this case, and to urge that attention be paid to this danger in any new bye-laws that may be passed.

### Puerperal Fever

happened once.

## Erysipelas

affected five persons. In several cases sanitary defects were discovered and remedied.

During the four months extending from September the 1st to December the 31st, I have visited, inspected, and made myself acquainted with the district. The streets in the North East ward, and the back streets generally in all the wards, have been sadly in want of repair, but now that the advertisements for tenders to repair them are published, I trust that they will soon be as clean and presentable as the main thoroughfares.

The Inspector has regularly patrolled the sands, and has had any offensive matter, washed up by the waves, promptly removed and buried. It is to be regretted that the Officials in charge of the timber washed up by the storms allow it to remain so long, disfiguring the Beach, and acting as a danger to the unwary after dark.

## Cowsheds and Dairies.

As a whole, the Cowsheds are kept clean and fairly well ventilated, but there is room for improvement in this respect in most of them; fresh air being quite as essential to the health of cattle as to that of human beings. The storage of manure, as at present carried out, is in many cases not at all satisfactory. The manure heap is surrounded by a carefully cemented wall, but only ordinary pebbles are used to form the floor on which it rests; the liquid from the heap instead of escaping by the drain percolates between the stones and saturates the soil for many feet around. The floors of all these manure heaps should be made of good, well-laid cement, sloping to a gully, so placed as not to be covered and hidden by the manure, but exposed and easily accessible for cleaning.

### Pigs, and Pig-keeping.

This is a question that will require your attention if Lytham is to continue to be regarded as a health resort. Among the number of Pigcotes I have inspected there were scarcely any that complied with the requirements of your Bye-laws, by being situated 60 feet from any dwelling house. The subjoined list of 17 of the principal defaulters will give you some idea of the serious nature of this nuisance. In many cases they are the prescribed distance from the house of their owner, but unpleasantly near to his neighbours.

	No of Swine kept when inspected.	Distance from dwelling.	Owner or Neighbour.
1	2	43 feet	Owner
2	2	40 "	"
3	2	40 "	"
4	3	12 "	"
5	1	40 "	"
6	1	45 "	"
7	2	37 "	"
8	1	31 "	"
9	4	31 "	"
10	2	21 "	"
11	2	30 "	"
12	20	30 "	Neighbour
13	2	30 "	"
14	3	30 "	"
15	4	30 "	"
16	1	10 "	Owner
17	3	24 "	"

### Slaughter-houses.

The Slaughter-houses have been frequently inspected and found clean and well managed. It would no doubt be an improvement if the walls were coated with some impervious substance, so that they could be easily washed after each time an animal was killed.



### Bake-houses.

The Bake-houses were found, when visited, to be clean and structurally correct.

### Drainage.

As regards the Drainage System and the disposal of the Sewage, I have treated the matter at some length in my special Report sent to the Improvement Commissioners in October. By it you will have seen that I advocate the disinfection of the whole of the sewers by the Hermite process, *i.e.*, the admixture of electrolized sea-water with their contents. As this proposal will probably be considered by you in detail very shortly, I will not here enter into the particulars and advantages of the plan. I wish, however, to mention an hindrance to efficient supervision by your officers of the house drains, caused by a resolution of the Improvement Commissioners to the effect that a fee of ten shillings is to be exacted from the householder before the smoke test can be applied. In several cases where the drains were suspected of being defective, it was not possible to prove the fact, as the owner refused to sign the requisition for the use of the smoke apparatus.

### Infectious Diseases Hospital.

I can not do better than quote from the last Annual Report of you Chairman, Dr. Fisher, when he was Medical Officer of Health for Lytham, in the year 1885.

“The erection of an Infectious Hospital is still under consideration, and I fully believe that at no very distant period a satisfactory scheme will be decided upon, which will not only benefit the Urban District of Lytham, but will also benefit the whole of the Fylde District.”

This sentence is literally true in 1895.

## The Cottage Hospital.

By the kind permission of Dr. Fisher, the Medical Superintendent, and thanks to the courtesy of the Matron, I am enabled to lay before you a table showing the amount of good work done at this Institution.

The patients who are residents of Lytham are shown in a separate column from those whose homes lie outside this Sanitary District.

## Meteorology.

I regret that I am unable to add to this Report a Meteorological Synopsis, but no systematic record seems to have been kept last year. As I am firmly convinced of the importance of comparing the atmospheric changes with the outbreak of various disorders, I have obtained the necessary instruments, and am now keeping a careful register for this year.

Appended are the Report of the Sanitary Inspector, showing the number of Notices served, and a summary of Nuisances abated or removed, and a list of articles disinfected; and the tables supplied by the Local Government Board, wherein the Births, Deaths, and Sickness are classified according to Disease, Age, and Locality.

With respect to the articles mentioned by the Inspector as having been burnt, I may mention that it was done at the owner's request, not by order of the Authority.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. H. JENKINS, D.P.H. Camb.,

Medical Officer of Health.



(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1894, in the Lytham Urban District; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.  (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages							Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of age.																	TOTAL.						
	At all ages. d	Under 1 year. c	1 and under 5. p	5 and under 15. e	15 and under 25. f	25 and under 65. g	65 and upwards. h	Smallpox. 1	Scarlatina. 2	Diphtheria. 3	Membranous Croup. 4	Fevers.					Cholera. 10	Erysipelas. 11	Measles. 12	Whooping Cough. 13	Diarrhoea and Dysentery. 14	Rheumatic Fever. 15	Ague. 16	Phthisis. 17		Bronchitis, Pneu- monia, & Pleurisy 18	Heart Disease. 19	Injuries. 20	All other Diseases. 21	22	
												Typhus. 5	Enteric or Typhoid. 6	Continued. 7	Relapsing. 8	Puerperal. 9															
North-East Ward .....	26	8	2	..	3	7	6	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	6	..	8	10
North-West Ward .....	16	4	3	..	..	4	5	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	..	5	..	16
South-East Ward .....	13	1	..	1	1	7	3	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	5	..	12
South-West Ward .....	11	1	..	1	1	3	5	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	5	..	10
Cottage Hospital, .....	4	..	..	1	1	1	1	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	4
TOTALS .....	70	14	5	3	6	22	20	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	4	12	1	23	..	51

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the District among per- sons belonging thereto	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5	..	1	1	..	3	..	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	4
Deaths occurring within the District among per- sons not belonging thereto.																														

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1894, in the Lytham Urban District; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all ages.			p. Registered Births.	e Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
	b Census, 1891.	c Estimated to middle of 1894.	d			Fever.						3	4	5	6	7	Fever.			10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
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North-East Ward .....	..	1139	36	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	..	1	3	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when? August 15th, 1890. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated. No Isolation Hospital is provided.



### Reported by the Sanitary Inspector.

Number of Notices served during the Year 1894.	126
Number of Legal Proceedings taken during the Year.	0

The Notices were served for the following reasons.

Overcrowding ... ..	1
Defective Drainage .. ..	32
Insanitary W.C.'s and Privies .. ..	21
Faulty Roofs ... ..	2
Dirty Premises ... ..	33
Defective Soilpipes .. ..	12
Insanitary Urinal .. ..	1
Removal of Pigs .. ..	1
Drains blocked ... ..	23

Number of bodies of Animals, &c., found on the Beach and buried during the last quarter, October 1st to December 31st.	20	Cats 3 Sheep 1 Dogs 14 Large Fish 2
Number of articles disinfected between Oct. 1st and Dec. 31st.	32	Scarlet Fever 17 Enteric Fever 15
Number of articles burned at the same time.	3	

Date when disinfected, Number and kind of article and  
Disease after which disinfection was necessary.

Date	Beds	Blan- kets	Mat- tresses	Pil- lows	Bol- sters.	Quilts	Other articl's	Disease
Nov. 15	2	6	2	4	2	...	1	Scarlet Fever
Nov. 27	2	4	2	2	1	2	2	Enteric Fever

Name, &c., of articles burned.

Nov. 15	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	Scarlet Fever
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Table showing the number of Patients treated at the Lytham Cottage Hospital during 1894, distinguishing those who are residents of this District.

No. and Sex of Patient	Residents of Lytham	Residing outside District
Males ... ..	13	12
Females... ..	13	25
	26	37
Total	63	

Table showing the number of cases of each disease treated at the Cottage Hospital.

Accident .. ...	6
Abscess ... ..	3
Necrosis ... ..	3
Tumour ... ..	1
Ulcer ... ..	2
Diseased Hip Joint	1
Housemaid's Knee	1
Eczema ... ..	1
Rheumatism ...	2
Phthisis ... ..	3
Bronchitis ... ..	3
Pleuro Pneumonia	1
Asthma ... ..	1
Disease of the Heart	2
„ Throat ... ..	2
„ Stomach ... ..	2
„ Bladder... ..	1
„ Brain ... ..	2
Anæmia ... ..	2
Debility ... ..	23
Puerperal ... ..	1